



To: Interested Parties
From: Ellie Langford, Opposition Research Director
Date: October 12, 2018

Anti-Choice Leaders Celebrated With Kavanaugh, Declaring His Confirmation A Victory In Their Fight To End Abortion

“It’s done! Onward to reverse Roe and #abolishabortion!”

After dropping at least \$16 million and spending weeks lobbying in support of Kavanaugh’s nomination, anti-choice groups celebrated Kavanaugh’s confirmation as a major win for the anti-choice movement. Top anti-choice leaders even attended the White House’s ceremonial swearing-in to celebrate Kavanaugh. Kavanaugh and his anti-choice backers had spent his nomination process papering over his anti-choice record, but after the confirmation, they wasted no time acknowledging his true stance:

- Students for Life: “It’s done! Onward to reverse Roe and #abolishabortion!! This is the #prolifegen!”
- Nevada Right to Life said Kavanaugh's confirmation is “another important step to the overturn of Roe v. Wade” and “the result of decades of work by pro-life activists and supporters.”
- Troy Newman of Operation Rescue said, "we are now at last on the final road to accomplishing our goal of ending abortion in America"
- Ann Coulter said, ""Kavanaugh should have ended [his speech] with "AND YOU CAN KISS ROE GOODBYE!"
- Anti-choice activist Abby Johnson proclaimed, “Today, we have a prolife Supreme Court. October 6 is an epic day in my calendar.”
- Priests for Life’s leadership tweeted from the swearing-in ceremony “#ReversingRoe”

Students for Life

Students for Life President Kristan Hawkins tweeted about Kavanaugh’s confirmation, “It’s done! Onward to reverse Roe and #abolishabortion!! This is the #prolifegen!”

Students for Life released a statement following Kavanaugh’s confirmation: “Students for Life of America President Kristan Hawkins praised the U.S. Senators who voted today to confirm Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court. ‘Today the Senate did its job, refusing to be held hostage to political games and unfounded accusations, and advancing this highly qualified nominee. It’s tragic that the process broke down to this degree, but the reason the Pro-Life Generation has worked tirelessly for this nominee is because we understand the importance of the Supreme Court. As those who opposed Judge Kavanaugh said themselves, this confirmation process became a brutal gauntlet because it was a proxy war over issues like



abortion. But the Pro-Life Generation stood firm because we understood the stakes and believe that the Supreme Court needs judges committed to the rule of law, not political activism.

[Twitter, [10/6/18](#); Students For Life, [10/6/18](#)]



Kristan Hawkins
@KristanHawkins

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It's done! Onward to reverse Roe and
#abolishabortion!! This is the **#prolifegen!**

1:02 PM - 6 Oct 2018

Students For Life tweeted: "WE DID IT!!!! CONGRATS JUSTICE KAVANAUGH!!! #JUSTICE4LIFE" Students for Life also tweeted "Congratulations to Justice Kavanaugh on being sworn in as a #Justice4Life" [Twitter, [10/6/18](#); Twitter, [10/8/18](#)]

Priests For Life

Priests For Life's Father Frank Pavone and Alveda King attended Kavanaugh's swearing in ceremony at the White House, sharing a picture from the event with the hashtag

"Reversing Roe." Before the event, Pavone tweeted, "Tonight @alvedaking and I are at the @WhiteHouse for the swearing in ceremony for #JusticeBrettKavanaugh. We are in exciting times as @POTUS continues to make advances for the protection of human life.

#MondayMotivation" Afterwards, Pavone tweeted, "Last night I was with @Franklin_Graham and @alvedaking at the @WhiteHouse for the ceremonial swearing in of #BretKavanaugh to #SCOTUS by @realDonaldTrump. What an honor! #maga #Deplorables #ReversingRoe." He also said, "I was so honored to be at #WhiteHouse swearing-in." [Twitter, [10/8/18](#); Twitter, [10/9/18](#); Twitter, [10/8/18](#)]



Fr. Frank Pavone  
@frfrankpavone

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Last night I was with @Franklin_Graham and @alvedaking at the @WhiteHouse for the ceremonial swearing in of #BretKavanaugh to #SCOTUS by @realDonaldTrump. What an honor! #maga #Deplorables #ReversingRoe



7:40 AM - 9 Oct 2018

Operation Rescue

Operation Rescue President Troy Newman: “We are now at last on the final road to accomplishing our goal of ending abortion in America.” In a statement, Troy Newman said “The confirmation of Judge Brett Kavanaugh represents a turning point in American jurisprudence, which has suffered under the activist philosophies of those who have all too often legislated from the bench. Roe v. Wade was such wrongly decided ruling that has cost over 60 million innocent lives. I understand that overturning that horrendous decision will take time, but I believe we are now at last on the final road to accomplishing our goal of ending abortion in America. I look forward to President Trump’s next Supreme court pick, and pray the process will not stoop to the same level of rancor that Judge Kavanaugh was forced to endure.” [Operation Rescue, [10/6/18](#)]

Nevada Right to Life

Nevada Right to Life called Kavanaugh’s confirmation “another important step to the overturn of Roe v. Wade” and “the result of decades of work by pro-life activists and supporters.” In an email Nevada Right to Life wrote, “The elevation of Justice Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court is an important step to significant roll backs on the way to Roe's demise and



returning power to shape abortion law to the American people....Pro-lifers should be proud of this moment. Justice Kavanaugh's nomination and confirmation is the result of decades of work by pro-life activists and supporters. We have long known that we must win elections, in legislatures to craft pro-life laws, AND in presidential elections to ensure justices that will uphold pro-life legislation. This has been a huge step and a long time coming. It has required all of our patience, persistence and perseverance. It will require more. -Thank you so much for your support and helping this happen.... This weekend's confirmation of Justice Kavanaugh shows that when we work together with your support, we can do it. Our opponents are in overdrive whipping their supporters into a frenzy. We need your support now. Please support Nevada Right to Life and our efforts to advance the pro-life cause and end abortion." [Nevada Right to Life email, 10/8/18, via NARAL Research Department]

Susan B. Anthony List

Susan B. Anthony List sent an email announcing Kavanaugh's confirmation with the subject line "WE DID IT." The email from Marjorie Dannenfelser stated, "You stood on the front lines of the fight against injustice, and defended Judge Kavanaugh and his family from the smear campaign orchestrated by Planned Parenthood and the Big Abortion Lobby. Thank you!.. While Judge Kavanaugh finally has the honorable seat he deserves on the Supreme Court, the damage done to him, his wife, and his two precious daughters will not go away. These senators cannot be rewarded with re-election for the nightmare they purposefully invoked on the Kavanaugh family. It's up to the American people to deliver justice." SBA List also released a statement that said, "we congratulate Justice Kavanaugh on his well-deserved and hard-earned confirmation," and "we thank President Trump for keeping his promise" to nominate anti-choice justices." [Susan B. Anthony List email, 10/7/18, via NARAL Research Department; Susan B. Anthony List, [10/6/18](#); The White House, [10/9/18](#)]

SBA List Board Chair Jane Abraham attended the White House swearing-in ceremony for Kavanaugh. [Twitter, [10/8/18](#)]



Susan B Anthony List
@SBAList

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Our board chair Jane Abraham is at the @WhiteHouse tonight for the ceremonial swearing in ceremony for Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh!! #ProLife



4:14 PM - 8 Oct 2018

LifeSiteNews

LifeSiteNews posted a petition asking the Supreme Court to overturn *Roe v. Wade*. The petition on Life Petitions read, "With Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation to the Supreme Court, pro-lifers have an historic opportunity to rid the United States of *Roe v. Wade* once and for all. Since 1973, more than 60 million Americans have been needlessly slaughtered in their mother's womb thanks to *Roe v. Wade*. This activist and unconstitutional ruling is based on principles not found in the U.S. Constitution. I urge you to overturn *Roe v. Wade*." As of Monday morning, the petition had 4,284 signatures. [Life Petitions, [10/5/18](#)]

Americans United for Life

AUL President Catherine Glenn Foster said that with Kavanaugh confirmed, "a majority of justices appear to understand not only that life begins at conception... but also that *Roe* was an egregious example of constitutional overreach," which "will serve all Americans well when *Roe v. Wade* inevitably comes before the Supreme Court." In a statement Glenn Foster said, "Today is an historic day for all Americans who support and work to advance the culture of life. Americans United for Life (AUL) applauds the U.S. Senate for overcoming partisan politics and gridlock in its confirmation of Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court of the United States. Judge Kavanaugh's distinguished judicial career has been



built upon his constitutionalist approach to law, and we trust that this will serve all Americans well when *Roe v. Wade* inevitably comes before the Supreme Court for review.” Urban Christian News reported, “She added that fears are that the Supreme Court ‘will increasingly find itself the target of divisive and partisan attacks by those for whom concepts of law and justice are merely weapons for asserting oppressive views that infringe on the fundamental right to life.’ Still, she said that for the first time in decades, ‘a majority of justices appear to understand not only that life begins at conception, as affirmed by medical science, but also that *Roe* was an egregious example of constitutional overreach.” [Urban Christian News, [10/7/18](#)]

Following Kavanaugh’s confirmation, AUL published “a draft opinion overruling *Roe v. Wade*.” The document, written by AUL Senior Counsel Clarke D. Forsythe, outlined a legal argument for overturning *Roe* based on a 20-week ban.” The abstract read, “*Roe v. Wade* has been subject to substantial judicial and scholarly criticism over the past forty-five years, but without an attempt specifically to explore how to overrule it in a majority opinion. This Article attempts to remedy that by drafting a model opinion that could be used to overrule *Roe*. The predicate for this Article’s proposed decision is a state’s twenty-week limit on abortion, which (as of 2018) has been enacted by twenty-one states. All of the six primary factors of *stare decisis* are applied to *Roe*. Although judges and scholars might disagree whether all six factors are relevant to an overruling decision, each factor illuminates specific defects in *Roe*. Much of the significant scholarly criticism of the past forty-five years is compiled and cited here. Much of the judicial criticism of *Roe* and its workability is likewise compiled and cited. The opinion overrules the first holding in *Roe*, that there is a federal constitutional right to “terminate pregnancy.” This “draft” invites alternative formulations.” [Americans United for Life, accessed [10/10/18](#)]

And Then There Were None

Anti-choice activist Abby Johnson wrote “Today, we have a prolife Supreme Court. October 6 is an epic day in my calendar.” And Then There Were None President Abby Johnson tweeted, “Nine years ago today I walked away from Planned Parenthood and their abortion industry. Today, we have a prolife Supreme Court. October 6 is an epic day in my calendar.” [Twitter, [10/6/18](#)]

Ann Coulter

After Kavanaugh’s swearing-in ceremony at the White House, Ann Coulter tweeted, “Kavanaugh should have ended with ‘AND YOU CAN KISS ROE GOODBYE!’” [Twitter, [10/8/18](#)]



Ann Coulter ✓
@AnnCoulter

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Kavanaugh should have ended with "AND YOU CAN KISS ROE GOODBYE!"

4:31 PM - 8 Oct 2018

2,579 Retweets 14,247 Likes



Heartbeat International

Heartbeat International President Jor-El Godsey was “optimistic that Judge Kavanaugh will help move” the Supreme Court in the “direction of life” and anticipated Roe being “overturned one or ten years from today.” In a statement Godsey wrote, “While our hope is not in the courts but in God, we are optimistic that Judge Kavanaugh will help move the highest court in the land back in the direction of life. Should Roe be overturned one or ten years from today, the pregnancy help community will be at the ready to love and serve the millions of women in need of our compassion and support.” Heartbeat International is one of the major networks of fake women’s health centers in the U.S. [Pregnancy Help News, [10/6/18](#)]

Focus On The Family

Focus on the Family was “extremely pleased” about Kavanaugh’s confirmation: “some see him as a possible fifth vote on the Court to overturn Roe v. Wade someday.” In a statement, Focus on the Family’s Jim Daly said, “We are extremely pleased that Judge Brett Kavanaugh has been confirmed by the U.S. Senate to be the next Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. Judge Kavanaugh is a man of proven judicial temperament, fair and impartial to all who appear in his courtroom. He has served almost three decades in public service. He deserves to sit on the nation’s highest court, and the nation will be greatly served because of it....This vote has always been about something other than Judge Kavanaugh, who is a good man and a fair and impartial jurist. Some see him as a possible fifth vote on the Court to overturn Roe v. Wade someday, since he appears to be more of a constitutionalist judge than the justice he is replacing, Anthony Kennedy.” [Focus on the Family, [10/6/18](#)]

National Right To Life

National Right to Life President Carol Tobias attended Kavanaugh’s swearing-in ceremony at the White House and shared a picture of her shaking his hand. In a statement Tobias said, “Today’s Senate vote is a victory for Judge Kavanaugh, and for the President, but also for the rule of law – it is a victory for all who believe that the federal courts should enforce the rights truly based on the text and history of the Constitution, and otherwise leave policy questions in the hands of elected legislators.” [Twitter, [10/8/18](#); National Right To Life, [10/6/18](#)]



Carol Tobias
@CarolTobias1

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It was an honor to attend the swearing-in ceremony for Justice [#Kavanaugh](#) at the White House.

[#nrlc](#)



7:26 PM - 8 Oct 2018

Family Research Council

FRC President Tony Perkins attended the White House swearing-in ceremony for Kavanaugh, writing that he was “grateful to witness history being made.” Family Research Council also released a statement praising Kavanaugh’s confirmation as “a major step in the journey to restore the Constitution to its rightful and intended role in our Republic.”[Twitter, [10/8/18](#); Family Research Council, [10/6/18](#)]



Tony Perkins
@tperkins

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Grateful to witness history being made tonight sitting next to my friend [@Franklin_Graham!](#)



7:15 PM - 8 Oct 2018

56 Retweets 502 Likes



Alliance Defending Freedom

ADF President Mike Farris attended Kavanaugh's swearing-in ceremony at the White House. Farris tweeted, "At the White House for the formal ceremony for Justice Kavanaugh." In a statement Farris said, "ADF congratulates Brett Kavanaugh, who will be the newest member of the high court and a worthy successor to Justice Kennedy. Justice Kavanaugh has received high praise as a competent and professional jurist from people across the ideological spectrum, and he has demonstrated that he is committed to interpreting the Constitution as our founders intended. That commitment must include affirming our most fundamental freedoms of free speech and religious liberty, which will most certainly be at stake in cases that will come before the court in upcoming terms." [Alliance Defending Freedom, [10/6/18](#); Twitter, [10/8/18](#)]

March For Life

March for Life President Jeanne Mancini attended the White House ceremony for Kavanaugh's swearing in. In a statement Mancini implied that Kavanaugh would rule against abortion rights: "Today the United States Supreme Court has gained an exceptional Justice in Brett Kavanaugh. March for Life is grateful to Justice Kavanaugh and his family for persevering

through this most difficult confirmation process. We are also grateful to President Trump for delivering on his campaign promise to nominate a fair and independent judge who faithfully adheres to the Constitution. The Supreme Court plays a critical role in pro-life policy and has for decades. We look forward to Justice Kavanaugh's tenure on the bench and the impact his dedicated public service will have towards creating a country where every human life is valued and protected equally under the law." [March For Life, [10/6/18](#); Twitter, [10/9/18](#)]



Faith & Freedom Coalition

Faith & Freedom Coalition celebrated Kavanaugh's confirmation and thanked supporters for their work helping to push through his confirmation. Faith & Freedom Coalition President Ralph Reed wrote in an email, "Just moments ago, the Senate voted to confirm Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the United States Supreme Court. While this has been a trying time for our nation and candidly one of the ugliest times I have ever witnessed in politics, the work put in by Faith & Freedom Coalition's supporters and friends was critical to Judge Kavanaugh's confirmation... As a result, FFC supporters made hundreds of thousands of calls to undecided Senators, asking them to "Vote Yes" to confirm Judge Kavanaugh. And the Senate did! This was due to a lot of hard work and the prayers of millions of people who interceded for Judge Kavanaugh and prayed fervently for him. With the greatest sincerity, thank you for your work and action. I can't express that enough." [Faith & Freedom Coalition Email, 10/6/18, via NARAL Research Department]

Faith & Freedom Coalition President Ralph Reed attended Kavanaugh’s swearing-in ceremony at the White House, where he shared pictures of himself with Justice Clarence Thomas, White House Counsel Don McGahn, and others. About McGahn, Reed tweeted, “With WH Counsel Don McGahn & his wife Shannon at the WH following #JusticeBrettKavanaugh swearing in ceremony. Don was the President’s point man on the nomination and did an extraordinary job.” [Twitter, [10/8/18](#); Twitter, [10/8/18](#); Twitter, [10/8/18](#)]



Leonard Leo

Leonard Leo attended the White House swearing-in ceremony for Kavanaugh. Leo said, “Justice Kavanaugh will serve our country admirably on the court because he understands that the very best way to protect human dignity and freedom is by respecting and enforcing the limits on government power contained in our Constitution.” [The Hill, [10/8/18](#); CNN, [10/9/18](#)]

American Values

Anti-choice leader Gary Bauer attended Kavanaugh’s swearing-in ceremony at the White House. Bauer, president of American Values, tweeted, “Kavanaugh swearing in at White House



was electric! I was blessed to be there. He specifically thanked the millions of Americans who prayed for him. Pres. Trump's apology to the Kavanaugh family for how they were smeared by the left was classic Trump! #MAGA #JusticeKavanaugh" He also shared a picture of Trump and Kavanaugh at the event with the caption "This will bring a smile to your face!" Bauer also tweeted, "In a few hours I will be at the White House to see in person Pres. Trump swear in Justice Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court. Congratulations to all of you who worked and prayed to make this happen. Any message you want me to pass on to the President? #JusticeBrettKavanaugh" [Twitter, [10/9/18](#); Twitter, [10/9/18](#); Twitter, [10/8/18](#)]

Concerned Women for America

Penny Nance Planned To Attend Kavanaugh's Swearing In Ceremony. "Looking forward to attending the swearing in tonight of #JusticeBrettKavanaugh at the @WhiteHouse. -Thank you @POTUS @realDonaldTrump for the invite. @CWforA @YWforA #womenforKavanaugh" [Twitter, [10/8/18](#)]

Concerned Women for America tweeted a picture of Kavanaugh's confirmation vote and wrote: "You did it!!!" CWA President Penny Nance tweeted, "Congratulations #JusticeBrettKavanaugh Good work @CWforA @YWforA I am so proud of our activists. We don't scream and yell we just get it done. ✓" [Twitter, [10/6/18](#); Twitter, [10/6/18](#)]

Judicial Crisis Network

Carrie Severino congratulated Kavanaugh in a statement. Severino said, "Congratulations to Judge Kavanaugh, and deep appreciation for all the Senators who supported him. Senate Majority Leader McConnell and Chairman Grassley deserve to be commended for their outstanding leadership. Judge Kavanaugh has been tested by fire and proved himself to be everything we expected and more. He will be another great justice." [Judicial Crisis Network, [10/6/18](#)]